

Federal Communications Commission

§ 76.205

§ 76.159 Requirements for invocation of protection.

For a station licensee to be eligible to invoke the provisions of this subpart, it must have a contract or other written indicia that it holds syndicated exclusivity rights for the exhibition of the program in question. Contracts entered on or after August 18, 1988, must contain the following words: "the licensee [or substitute name] shall, by the terms of this contract, be entitled to invoke the protection against duplication of programming imported under the Compulsory Copyright License, as provided in § 76.151 of the FCC rules [or 'as provided in the FCC's syndicated exclusivity rules']". Contracts entered into prior to August 18, 1988, must contain either the foregoing language or a clear and specific reference to the licensee's authority to exercise exclusivity rights as to the specific programming against cable television broadcast signal carriage by the cable system in question upon the contingency that the government reimposed syndicated exclusivity protection. In the absence of such a specific reference in contracts entered into prior to August 18, 1988, the provisions of these rules may be invoked only if (a) the contract is amended to include the specific language referenced above or (b) a specific written acknowledgment is obtained from the party from whom the broadcast exhibition rights were obtained that the existing contract was intended, or should now be construed by agreement of the parties, to include such rights. A general acknowledgment by a supplier of exhibition rights that specific contract language was intended to convey rights under these rules will be accepted with respect to all contracts containing that specific language. Nothing in this Section shall be construed as a grant of exclusive rights to a broadcaster where such rights are not agreed to by the parties.

[54 FR 12919, Mar. 29, 1989]

§ 76.161 Substitutions.

Whenever, pursuant to the requirements of the syndicated exclusivity rules, a community unit is required to delete a television program on a broadcast signal that is permitted to be car-

ried under the Commission's rules, such community unit may, consistent with these rules and the sports blackout rules at 47 CFR 76.67, substitute a program from any other television broadcast station. Programs substituted pursuant to this section may be carried to their completion.

[54 FR 12920, Mar. 29, 1989]

§ 76.163 Effective dates.

No cable system shall be required to delete programming pursuant to the provisions of §§ 76.151 through 76.159 prior to January 1, 1990.

[54 FR 12920, Mar. 29, 1989]

Subpart G—Cablecasting

§ 76.205 Origination cablecasts by legally qualified candidates for public office; equal opportunities.

(a) *General requirements.* No cable television system is required to permit the use of its facilities by any legally qualified candidate for public office, but if any system shall permit any such candidate to use its facilities, it shall afford equal opportunities to all other candidates for that office to use such facilities. Such system shall have no power of censorship over the material broadcast by any such candidate. Appearance by a legally qualified candidate on any:

- (1) Bona fide newscast;
- (2) Bona fide news interview;
- (3) Bona fide news documentary (if the appearance of the candidate is incidental to the presentation of the subject or subjects covered by the news documentary); or
- (4) On-the-spot coverage of bona fide news events (including, but not limited to political conventions and activities incidental thereto) shall not be deemed to be use of a system. (section 315(a) of the Communications Act.)

(b) *Uses.* As used in this section and § 76.206, the term "use" means a candidate appearance (including by voice or picture) that is not exempt under paragraphs 76.205 (a)(1) through (a)(4) of this section.

(c) *Timing of request.* A request for equal opportunities must be submitted to the system within 1 week of the day on which the first prior use giving rise